



NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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Cattle Inventory Up 3 Percent

NASHVILLE, January 27, 2006 - The total number of cattle and calves in Tennessee on January 1, 2006, was 2.24 million head, 3 percent above last year's total and the first increase in 3 years. This information is based on a recent cattle survey conducted by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee Field Office. Debra Kenerson, State Director, remarked, "Cattle prices remained strong during 2005 and consequently, producers held onto their breeding stock and calves, pushing inventory higher." Results of the survey showed the following breakout of inventory on January 1, 2006, with comparison to last year: **beef cows** totaled 1.11 million, up 3 percent; **milk cow** numbers were 70,000, down 3 percent; **calves under 500 pounds** were 550,000, up 6 percent; and **steers and other heifers** weighing 500 pounds and over, at 210,000 head, were up 11 percent. Tennessee's 2005 **calf crop** increased 4 percent from 2004 to 1.06 million head.

U.S. Cattle Inventory Up 2 Percent

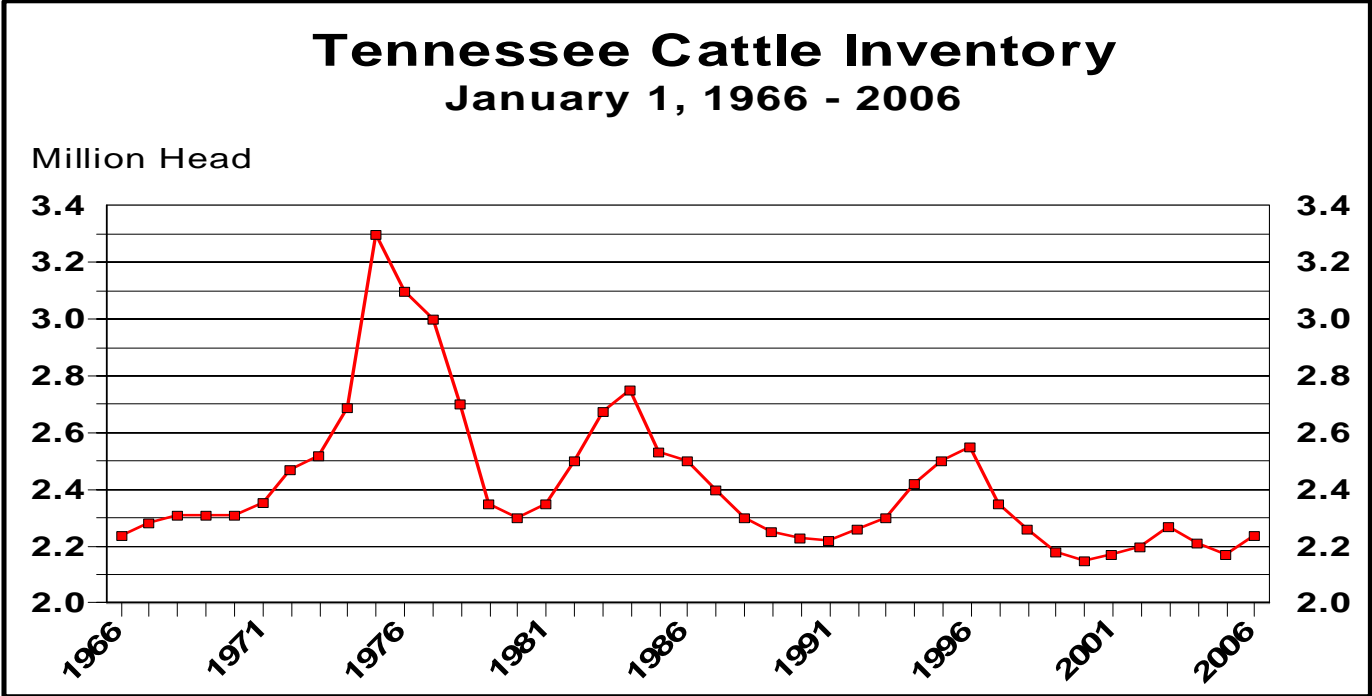
All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2006, totaled 97.1 million head, 2 percent above the 95.4 million on January 1, 2005. **All cows and heifers** that have calved, at 42.3 million, were up 1 percent from the 41.9 million on January 1, 2005. **Beef cows**, at 33.3 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005, and **milk cows**, at 9.06 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2006, and the change from January 1, 2005, are as follows: **All heifers** 500 pounds and over, 20.0 million, up 2 percent; **Beef replacement heifers**, 5.90 million, up 4 percent; **Milk replacement heifers**, 4.28 million, up 4 percent; **Other heifers**, 9.80 million, up slightly; **Steers** weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.9 million, up 3 percent; **Bulls** weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.26 million, up 2 percent; **Calves under 500 pounds**, 15.6 million, up 2 percent; **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.1 million, up 3 percent. The combined total of **calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds** outside of feedlots was 28.2 million, up 2 percent. The **2005 calf crop** was estimated at 37.8 million head, up 1 percent from 2004. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.4 million, up slightly from 2004.

Cattle and Calves: Number by Class, Tennessee and U.S., January 1, 2005-2006

Class	Tennessee			United States		
	2005	2006	2006/2005	2005 ¹	2006	2006/2005
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Cattle and Calves	2,170	2,240	103	95,438	97,102	102
All Cows that Have Calved	1,150	1,180	103	41,920	42,311	101
Beef	1,078	1,110	103	32,915	33,253	101
Milk	72	70	97	9,005	9,058	101
Heifers, 500 pounds and over	310	310	100	19,573	19,978	102
Beef Cow Replacement	195	185	95	5,691	5,905	104
Milk Cow Replacement	40	40	100	4,118	4,278	104
Other	75	85	113	9,763	9,795	100
Steers, 500 pounds and over	115	125	109	16,476	16,923	103
Bulls, 500 pounds and over	75	75	100	2,219	2,263	102
Calves, under 500 pounds	520	550	106	15,250	15,626	102
Calf Crop ²	1,020	1,060	104	37,505	37,780	101
Cattle on Feed	5	8	160	13,745	14,132	103

¹ Revised. ² Calves born during previous 12 months.



Tennessee Ranks Second in Meat Goats
Sheep Inventory Up 17 Percent

The total number of **meat goats** in Tennessee on January 1, 2006, was 103,000 head, while **milk goats** totaled 6,200 head. Tennessee ranks second in the nation in number of meat goats and sixteenth in milk goats. The total number of **sheep and lambs** in the State on January 1, 2006, was 27,000, 17 percent above last year’s total of 23,000 head. Breeding inventory, at 22,000 head, was up 2,000 head for last year, while market inventory increased 3,000 to 5,000 head for 2006. Tennessee’s 2005 lamb crop also increased 1,000 head from 2004 to 16,000 head.

U.S. Sheep and Lamb Inventory Up 2 Percent
U.S. Goat and Kid Inventory Up 4 Percent

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2006, totaled 6.23 million head, up 2 percent from both 2005 and 2004. The inventory began increasing in 2005 and has shown two consecutive year to year increases for the first time since 1987 and 1988. The 2005 **lamb crop** of 4.13 million head, was up 1 percent from 2004. **All goat** inventory in the United States on January 1, 2006, totaled 2.83 million head, up 4 percent from 2005. **Breeding goat** inventory totaled 2.35 million head, up 4 percent from 2005. **Market goats and kids** totaled 471,800 head, up 4 percent from a year ago. On January 1, 2006, **meat and all other goats** totaled 2.26 million head, up 5 percent from 2005. **Milk goat** inventory increased 1 percent to 288,000 head, while **angora goats** were down 1 percent totaling 278,000 head. The 2005 **kid crop** totaled 1.84 million head for all goats, up 4 percent from 2004.

Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class, Tennessee and U.S., January 1, 2005 -2006

Class	Tennessee			United States ¹		
	2005	2006	2006/2005	2005	2006	2006/2005
	Thousand Head		Percent	Thousand Head		Percent
All Sheep and Lambs	23.0	27.0	117	6,135	6,230	102
Total Breeding	20.0	22.0	110	4,533	4,639	102
Ewes, One Yr. & Older	14.0	15.0	107	3,573	3,657	102
Rams, One Yr. & Older	1.5	2.0	133	190	196	103
Replacement Lambs	4.5	5.0	111	771	786	102
Total Market	3.0	5.0	167	1,602	1,591	99
Market Lambs	2.8	4.8	171	1,528	1515	99
Market Sheep	0.2	0.2	100	74	76	103
Lamb Crop ²	15.0	16.0	107	4,096	4,125	101
Sheep Shorn	16.0	17.0	106	5,073	5,072	100

¹ May not add due to rounding. ² Lambs and kids born during previous 12 months.